

# PIEDMONT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT October 9, 2012

## **Board of Directors Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m., Old Hickory House, Tucker, GA by Charlie Crawford, MMR, Superintendent.

Board Members Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (13): Bob McIntyre, Rick Coble, Charlie Crawford, Howard Goodwin, Peter Youngblood, Bill Zawacki, Gary Jarabek, Joe Sullivan, I.D. Jackson, Paul Rankin, Mike Deaton, David Gelmini, Scott Chatfield

Absent (1): Walt Liles

Quorum Present

Committee Chairs, Division Members, and Visitors Present *as taken from the sign-in sheet* (21): Greg Williams, Norman Lundin, Sally Bando, Diane Kittendorf, Del Kittendorf, Randall Watson, Ron Gough, Bob Wood, Ed Svitil, Len Polinsky, Vic Pitrowski, Ken Raymond, John Travis, Ed Laity, Mike Scupin, Joe Nichols, Sr., Tom Banks, Joe Gelmini, Scott Povlot, Stephen Leydon, Joe Surowiec

## **Officer and Director Reports**

### ***Administration—Rick Coble***

Rick has received some committee rosters. Please send changes to Rick Coble prior so he can update the committee list for the next Director of Administration.

Gary Jarabek mad a motion to accept the minutes of the September 2012 meeting. Seconded by Charlie Crawford. Motion passed.

### ***Finance—I.D. Jackson***

I.D. Jackson distributed the September financial report prior to the meeting. Jackson clarified items on the report in response to questions.

Charlie Crawford made a motion to approve the September financial report. Seconded by Joe Sullivan. Motion passed.

### ***Operations—Howard Goodwin***

Currently, all programs underway are making progress, particularly getting the 2013 schedule assembled. Calls are being made for clinics and home layout tours. The recently concluded Operations Program (9-29) held at John Wilson's home layout was a mild success but not as well attended as anticipated. Either we aren't getting the word out effectively enough, or there aren't that many folks who are interested in operations. We will continue to hold programs on a regular basis to try to appeal to those who would like to learn operations on a less intimidating scale than an all-out operating session on some folk's layouts who treat it like life and death. It has to be fun.

For the Divisions consideration is an outreach program for the Goshen Valley Boys Ranch. While not specifically mentioned, the construction of an O Scale model railroad would be a possible involvement should the Division pursue this. I will try to get more definitive information about this.

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## ***Personnel/Membership - Paul Rankin***

We had 86 people at our September meeting, with one visitor, and the attachment (distributed prior to the meeting) shows the cumulative data. Note that I've been keeping last year's data in the attendance column until it is superseded by this year's, so there will not be a zero in the attendance column to skew the rolling average too much.

I'll be asking again for volunteers to man our membership booth for the 2 day show the last weekend of October. I have several, and will need 8 altogether; 2 each for the AM and PM shifts for both days.

## **Committee Reports**

### ***Member Aid - Bob McIntyre***

No requests.

### ***Piedmont Pilgrimage - Bob McIntyre***

Piedmont Pilgrimage: The booklets have been completed. They will be given out to the members at the October meeting. The booklets have been delivered or mailed to all the local hobby shops. I have kept a few and have hand delivered them to individuals who have expressed interest in visiting layouts. We are expecting a high turnout this year with over 90 layouts!

### ***Achievement Program – Bob McIntyre***

Achievement Program: We have had a slight dry period on Achievement Program Applications. Last month we received an application for Volunteer from Milt Burge. This month we will have our twice per year Model Contest. There will also be a separate contest for outhouses. These will be awarded based on popular vote. The key rules are they cannot be store bought. They have to be scratchbuilt. They cannot be more than two holes. They can essentially be made of any material.

### ***2013 National Convention – Bob McIntyre***

2013 National Convention Update: The key item is we recently met with James Luper who is the new NMRA national Convention Coordinator. The key money maker items we came away with were the following: 1. The present contract will be amended to change the % split from 80/20 to 50/50. 2. We would keep the 15% commission on the items brought to the Silent Auction. 3. We would be able to maintain the 8% profit from the National TrainShow.

After the meeting we are still negotiating a couple of points. The first is the 8% profit from the National TrainShow is "pending". The next item is the NMRA wants to sell railroad items that have been donated and are in storage at the NMRA HQ. They do not want us to collect the 15% from these items. We do not agree with this decision. Currently I have requested that we do collect the 15% and if we cannot then we may not allow the NMRA to sell them. This entire issue is "pending".

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***2013 National Convention - continued***

The NMRA has said that the AV items that are stored at HQ will be available to us free of charge. We just need to get them to Atlanta. The NMRA has said that they will split the current AV costs (the present contract we have) but they will not pay for the labor portion of the contract. Peter is going to get the vendor to split out the labor costs on the contract. Back to the AV equipment at HQ, we are going to go to HQ and check it out. If we can use the equipment then potentially we could save the cost on the present contract.

***Timetable - Doug Alexander***

No report. Gary Jarabek informed the meeting attendees that Doug Alexander would bring 150 this evening. These will be included in the Piedmont Pilgrimage hosts' packets.

***Website - Scott Povlot***

Scott distributed a report via e-mail prior to the meeting.

***Advertising and Promotion/Division Apparel - Gary Jarabek***

**Advertising:**

Monthly Meetings

NMRA submitted through January 2013 Issue

Railroad Model Craftsman submitted through January 2013 Issue.

Trains.com submitted through January 2013

Piedmont Pilgrimage

NMRA submitted for October and November

Railroad Model Craftsman Submitted for October and November

**Company Store:**

There are only med. And XL of old style short sleeve polo shirts left to sell. These will be sold at \$28.00.

Blue polo shirts are in stock. Complete size range (med to 3XL).

Med to 2XL available in long sleeve denim shirts.

Caps are also in stock.

Mugs will be distributed to new NMRA members.

Aprons

A few are in stock for future requests (denim and canvas)

***Good and Welfare –Joe Gelmini***

Card sent to Peter Youngblood's wife, Melody, regarding hip replacement surgery Oct 1

Joe will send a card to John and Sue Stephens due to the passing of Sue's mother.

Charlie Crawford gave an update of his son's progress since an earlier accident. He is progressing well.

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***Model Train Show –Joe Gelmini***

Have requested exhibit halls C & D for the weekend of March 15-16 2014. Awaiting Galleria response on availability and costs. These halls will also be used for the National Train Show.

The show staff will speak with vendors about the Piedmont Division's 2014 Model Train Show.

Gary Jarabek has discussed promotion of the show with Tom Draper, the NMRA National Train Show manager. Gary proposes that we send National Train Show postcards to everyone on our Model Train Show list. In return, the NMRA allows us to receive all guest registration cards from the show. This item is pending.

***Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Duluth) - John Stevens***

We had 32 scouts earn the merit badge at the latest session at the SRM which brings our program total to 632. Perry Lamb was presented with a certificate thanking him for helping 500 scouts earn the merit badge.

We have been asked to set up the switching layouts at the SRM the second weekend of November as part of the Piedmont Pilgrimage. This is always a difficult project to man because of the other Pilgrimage open houses and this one is again being bothersome.

Charlie Crawford organized the movement of the kid's layout from the storage unit to the scout shed.

***Boy Scout Merit Badge Program (Kennesaw) - Bill Ello***

No report.

***Audio-Visual Production & Promotion Committee-Peter Youngblood, MMR***

The Piedmont Division AV Committee brought a division laptop and projector to the Sept. 29th Aiken, SC SER Mini-meet for clinician use. Thanks for bringing the equipment was publicly expressed by Steven Prevette, Div. #9 Superintendent and the organizer of this most enjoyable event.

All good thoughts and quick recovery wishes are extended Norman Lundin who will undergo a serious back operation at the end of October.

***Name Badges - James Bando***

James made four name badges since the last meeting.

***Division Video Library - David Gelmini***

David reports that he not been able to spend much time on video copying and hopes to get back on track next month.

***Division Book Library - Stephen Leydon***

No report.

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***Volunteer Coordinator - Walt Liles***

No report.

**Old Business**

***Operations Jamboree - Howard Goodwin***

We will continue to hold programs on a regular basis to try to appeal to those who would like to learn operations on a less intimidating scale than an all-out operating session on some folks layouts who treat it like life and death. It has to be fun.

***Storage Unit - Charlie Crawford***

The kid's operating layout was moved to the storage shed at the SERM September 22. Rental ended 9/30/12.

***Strategic Planning Meeting - Charlie Crawford***

Charlie Crawford scheduled the Strategic Planning Meeting December 2, 2012 after the 2012 elections so newly elected BOD members may attend.

***Contributions to NMRA for Sacramento Museum – Charlie Crawford***

The NMRA has received a matching funds donation of \$250,000 for the NMRA museum in California. The match expires at the end of 2012.

The S.E.R. BOD voted to not contribute to the museum. SER. President Joe Gelmini said that Alan Mole will head a team to identify and evaluate contributions to potential organizations located in the S.E.R.

In view of this and our ongoing negotiations regarding the 2013 Convention, I recommend we not contribute at this time.

Members of the Board of Directors agreed. The Piedmont Division will not contribute.

**New Business**

***Outreach Project – Goshen Valley Boys Ranch – Howard Goodwin***

Howard Goodwin suggested possible participation in the construction of an O scale model railroad at the Goshen Valley Boys Ranch.

John Travis asked if this layout was separate than a previously mentioned layout at the Kennesaw Museum. Howard replied that it is. John added that this type of project would require additional money to cover unanticipated costs.

Howard will investigate further and report to the Board in November.

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***MMRs on the Division Website – Randall Watson***

Randall Watson suggested adding photos of our four newest Master Model Railroaders to the Division website. Greg Williams will take a photo of the four and get it to Scott.

***Division Website/Calendar Meeting Information – Peter Youngblood***

Peter Youngblood asked that the currency and content of website event information be improved.

Currency will be addressed as Howard Goodwin, Director of Operations, will send the schedule to webmaster Scott Povlot as soon as it is ready. Scott will continue to update the website.

Additional calendar event detail will be added by the appropriate parties.

The Meeting Adjourned 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Coble, Director of Administration